

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATI DOCKETED

WILLIAM A. MUNDELL Chairman JIM IRVIN Commissioner MARC SPITZER

Commissioner

AUG n 6 2001

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6 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF OWEST CORPORATION F/K/A U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC., FOR APPROVAL OF AN UNBUNDLED NETWORK ELEMENT COMBINATION AMENDMENT TO THE INTERCONNECTION AND SERVICE RESALE AGREEMENT WITH ADELPHIA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS OPERATIONS, INC.

DOCKET NOS. T-01051B-01-0467 T-03837A-01-0467

DECISION NO. 63897

ORDER

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Open Meeting July 24 and 25, 2001

12 Phoenix, Arizona

BY THE COMMISSION:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- On June 8, 2001, Owest Corporation ("Qwest"), f/k/a U S West Communications, 1. 16 Inc., filed an application for approval of an Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between 17 Qwest and Adelphia Business Solutions Operations, Inc. ("Adelphia"). The original 18 Interconnection Agreement was approved by the Commission on October 10, 2000, in Decision 19 No. 62946.
- The Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("1996 Act") directed incumbent local 20 2. 21 exchange carriers to make their networks available for interconnection and resale by new entrants 22 to the local exchange market. The 1996 Act provides for interconnection and resale agreements to 23 be concluded by voluntary negotiation.
- This Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Owest and Adelphia 3. 25 was voluntarily negotiated, without resort to arbitration.
- Under the terms of this Amendment, terms, conditions and rates are added for 26 4. 27 Unbundled Network Element Combinations. Unbundled Network Elements are network elements,

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which are defined by the Federal Communications Commission and that Quest must make 2 available to Adelphia for a fee.

- According to the 1996 Act, the Commission must approve voluntarily negotiated 5. 4 interconnection and resale agreements, if their provisions are non-discriminatory and in the public 5 interest.
- 6. Staff has reviewed the Amendment and finds it to be non-discriminatory and in the public interest. Qwest is offering the same terms and conditions of the Agreement to all other 8 interested parties. The Agreement is in the public interest because it will act to further competition 9 in the local exchange market in Arizona.
 - Since there are no grounds for rejection of the Amendment pursuant to Section 252(e)(2)(A) of the 1996 Act, Staff has recommended that the Commission approve the Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest and Adelphia.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- Qwest is an Arizona public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV, 1. 15 Section 2, of the Arizona Constitution.
- The Commission has jurisdiction over Adelphia and over the subject matter of the 2. 17 Application.
- The Commission, having reviewed the Application and Staff's Memorandum has 3. 19 determined that the Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement negotiated between Qwest and 20 Adelphia meets the requirements of Section 252(e)(2)(A) of the 1996 Act which governs the 21 approval of voluntarily-negotiated agreements and is in the public interest.
- The Commission maintains jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Agreement 4. 23 and Amendments, thereof, to the extent permitted pursuant to the powers granted the Commission 24||by the Arizona Constitution, Statutes, Commission Rule, and the 1996 Act and the Rules 25 promulgated thereunder.

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DISSENT:

DRS:EAA:bsl/MAS

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